

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 115483  
ORIGIN EB-03

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DRAFTED BY:EB:TCA:MA:CTAYLOR, JR.

APPROVED BY:E:TCA:MA:CTAYLOR, JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 115483

FOR RICHARD BANK US DEL OECD MTC

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED MAY 19, 1977 SENT  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO USUN NEW YORK, GENEVA IS REPEATED TO YOU:  
QUOTE

UNCLAS LONDON 08269

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: JURISDICTIONAL PROBLEM BETWEEN IMCO AND UNCTAD  
SHIPPING COMMITTEE

REF: LONDON 5988 (NOTAL); GENEVA 2865 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: DURING THE 14TH SESSION OF THE TECHNICAL  
COOPERATION COMMITTEE (TCC) OF IMCO, LONDON MAY 18/19, THE  
MAIN ITEM OF DISCUSSION WAS A JURISDICTIONAL PROBLEM THAT  
IMCO HAS WITH UNCTAD. THE USDEL TO TCC CONSIDERS THE  
PROBLEM A SERIOUS ONE AND REQUESTS SUPPORT BY USDEL TO  
ECOSOC WHEN THIS PROBLEM WILL BE DISCUSSED AND DECIDED  
THIS WEEK AND NEXT. END SUMMARY.

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2. AT THE MEETING OF THE UNCTAD COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING  
(USC) HELD AT GENEVA 12-22 APRIL 1977, ONE OF THE DOCU-  
MENTS OF THE UNCTAD SHIPPING COMMITTEE ENTITLED "INFORMA-  
TION ON AVAILABILITY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN SHIPPING  
AND PORTS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES" (DOCUMENT TD/B/C.4/165)  
CITED THREE BODIES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM EQUIP-  
PED TO WORK ON ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT POLICIES AT THE

GLOBAL LEVEL; NAMELY, "UNCTAD FOR SHIPPING, PORTS, CONNECTED INLAND TRANSPORT AND MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT; ICAO FOR AIR TRANSPORT; AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF UN FOR ROAD AND RAIL TRANSPORT." IMCO WAS NOT EVEN MENTIONED.

3. THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF IMCO, WHO WAS PRESENT AT THE UNCTAD SHIPPING COMMITTEE MEETING, MADE A STATEMENT ON APRIL 14 IN WHICH HE REPORTED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN IMCO, INCLUDING ITS GROWTH TO 101 MEMBERS AND ACTIVITIES OF ITS TCC; EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN AT UNCTAD'S FAILURE TO CITE IMCO SINCE IT IS "AN ORGANIZATION DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO MARITIME TRANSPORT AND RECOGNIZED AS THE SPECIALIZED AGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THIS SPHERE;" CITED SIX DIFFERENT IMCO PROGRAMS FOR TRANSFER OF MARITIME TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGIES TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; STATED THAT THE PROPOSAL IN PARA. 41 OF UNCTAD SHIPPING COMMITTEE DOCUMENT TD/B/C.4/164, TO HAVE UNCTAD ESTABLISH AN INFORMATION SERVICE FOR LDCS ON THE AVAILABILITY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN SHIPPING AND PORTS IMPINGED UPON IMCO'S ONGOING AND COMPREHENSIVE TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE DIRECTED AT PROVIDING SUCH A SERVICE.

4. THE IMCO SENGEN'S REPORT OF THE UNCTAD MEETING, AND THE TEXT OF HIS REMARKS INDICATE A SERIOUS JURISDICTIONAL PROBLEM WHICH USDEL TO IMCO HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY APPRECIATED.

5. UNCTAD OBSERVER WHO WAS PRESENT AT IMCO TCC MEETING  
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MAY 18 REASSERTED UNCTAD'S ROLE IN TECHNICAL AREA AND SAID THE PROBLEM WAS TO BE DISCUSSED BY CPC LATER THIS WEEK AND WOULD BE DECIDED BY ECOSOC NEXT WEEK.

6. USDEL TO IMCO DOES NOT UNDERSTAND HOW UNCTAD SHIPPING COMMITTEE COULD PRETEND TO CONSIDER MARITIME TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITHOUT EVEN MENTIONING IMCO, NOR CAN WE UNDERSTAND UNCTAD'S MOTIVE. TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES IS THE PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY OF ALL IMCO COMMITTEES.

7. IMCO'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE HOLDS TWO SESSIONS EACH YEAR; IMCO'S REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL MARITIME ADVISERS, WHO VISIT LDC'S FREQUENTLY, DO NOTHING BUT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; IMCO MAINTAINS VERY CLOSE CONTACT WITH UNDP AND UNEP, BOTH OF WHOM FINANCE IMCO TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS; IMCO HAS A DETAILED SYSTEM OF INTERCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD LIKE TO ADD THAT IMCO HOLDS MEETING

FOR 38 WEEKS EACH YEAR, UNCTAD SHIPPING COMMITTEE MEETS ONCE EVERY YEAR OR TWO. WE DO NOT SEE HOW UNCTAD CAN, OR WHY IT SHOULD TRY TO, DISPLACE IMCO IN MARITIME TRANSPORT MATTERS, PARTICULARLY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR MARINE TRANSPORT.

8. THERE IS NO NEED OR JUSTIFICATION FOR ANOTHER "INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT." WHAT IS NEEDED IS A CLEAR DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES. WE DON'T KNOW HOW WELL RUN UNCTAD IS, BUT WE KNOW THAT IMCO IS ONE OF OUR BEST SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. WE THINK THE US SHOULD SUPPORT IMCO.

9. ACTION REQUEST: WE REQUEST THAT USDEL TO ECOSOC TAKE THE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE THAT UNCTAD SHOULD LIMIT ITSELF TO THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL ASPECTS OF SHIPPING AND PORTS, AND LEAVE TO IMCO THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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